

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 NSF-01

NAS-01 HEW-02 DOTE-00 AEC-05 AECE-00 OES-03 SS-15

NSC-05 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NIC-01

BIB-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ABF-01 EURE-00 /060 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1154

INFO USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/EE, L

USIA FOR IEE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO

SUBJ: US-ROMANIAN PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES FOR 1975 AND 1976

REF: A) BUCHAREST 5684

B) BUCHAREST 5688

1. AS DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE, THE PROGRAM IS CONSIDERABLY LONGER THAN USDEL HAD HOPED, AND INCLUDES GENERAL, ENABLING LANGUAGE AS WELL AS PROVISIONS FOR SPECIFIC EXCHANGES. WE HAVE AGREED TO INCLUSION OF THIS GENERAL LANGUAGE AT REQUEST OF ROMANIANS WHO CLAIM IT IS REQUIRED BY THEIR ORGANIZATIONS TO ENABLE THEM TO CONDUCT AND FUND THEIR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES. WHILE THIS LENGTHENS THE DOCUMENT, IT DOES PROVIDE AUTHORITY FOR THE ROMANIANS TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES WHICH, IN MANY CASES, ARE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO THE U.S. SIDE. FURTHERMORE, THESE ENABLING PARAGRAPHS, IN MOST CASES, USE LANGUAGE IDENTICAL TO THE 1973-74 AGREEMENT AND DO NOT COMMIT THE U.S. SIDE TO EXPENDITURE

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OF FUNDS. WHERE WE HAVE ADDED NEW ENABLING LANGUAGE, AS

IN CASE OF EQUIVALENCY OF DEGREES (ARTICLE I, PARAGRAPH 9), AND PRESS, RADIO AND TV (ARTICLE IV), WE HAVE NOT GONE BEYOND LANGUAGE USED IN US-USSR CULTURAL AGREEMENT OF JUNE 19, 1973.

2. NEW EXCHANGES AND PROVISIONS OF INTEREST TO THE US SIDE INCLUDE:

A) IN EXCHANGES OF GRADUATE STUDENTS, RESEARCH SCHOLARS AND SHORT-TERM FACULTY MEMBERS (ARTICLE I, PARAS 1-3), WE HAVE ACHIEVED A LONG-SOUGHT OBJECTIVE BY AGREEING THAT "NOT MORE THAN 60 PERCENT OF THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE IN THE PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES." THIS IS THE FORMULA IREX HAS USED IN ITS EE AGREEMENTS AND IT IMPLIES THAT AT LEAST 40 PERCENT (ON BOTH SIDES) WILL BE IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. IT HAS NO PRACTICAL LIMITING EFFECT FOR US SIDE SINCE VERY FEW OF OUR PARTICIPANTS ARE IN PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES.

B) WE HAVE INCLUDED A NEW CATEGORY OF AMERICAN LECTURERS (IN ENGLISH TEACHING), BY PROPOSING TO SUBSTITUTE SUCH LECTURERS FOR U.S. RESEARCH SCHOLARS, A CATEGORY WHOSE QUOTA WE HAVE NOT FILLED IN RECENT YEARS.

C) WE HAVE REDUCED SOMEWHAT OUR OVERALL COMMITMENTS TO RECEIVE ROMANIAN CULTURAL PERSONALITIES (ARTICLE III, PARA 2) BY MAKING OPTIONAL THE NUMBER OF GRANTS IN EXCESS OF 30 DAYS, THUS COMBINING IN EFFECT THE TWO PROGRAMS OF CULTURAL SPECIALISTS AND "GRADUATE STUDENTS" IN THE ARTS.

D) IN PLACE OF REDUCED CULTURAL GRANTS WE HAVE BROADENED FRAMEWORK OF AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE YOUTH LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (ARTICLE VI), "IN FIELDS TO BE DETERMINED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS". IN EFFECT THIS IS A START TOWARD A BROADER INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM (IVP) THAN WE HAVE HAD IN THE PAST, AND GIVES THE EMBASSY THE OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE ROMANIANS IN A VARIETY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FIELDS OF INTEREST TO THE TWO SIDES. THE ROMANIANS HAVE INDICATED THEIR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO THIS PROPOSAL, SUBJECT TO WORKING OUT DETAILS ON THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIDE, WHICH EXPLAINS LACK OF MORE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE VI. WE HAD PROPOSED FIVE GENERAL IVP GRANTS, BUT ROMANIANS INDICATED THEY MIGHT EVENTUALLY AGREE TO EVEN LARGER NUMBER.

3. WE HAVE AGREED TO A PROGRAM OF TWO YEARS DURATION BUT HAVE PROVIDED FOR A REVIEW TOWARD END OF 1975 TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF ANY CHANGES IN CU/EE FY 76 BUDGET.

4. WHILE TOTAL NUMBER OF CU GRANTS MAY BE LARGER THAN UNDER PREVIOUS AGREEMENT, BELIEVE WE CAN ADEQUATELY FUND THEM IN FY 75, SINCE SOME IVP GRANTS CAN BE FUNDED WITH FY 76 FUNDS DURING LATTER HALF OF CALENDAR 1975.

5. NEW PROGRAM FOR LECTURERS IN ENGLISH TEACHING (ARTICLE I, PARA 5 D) SHOULD REQUIRE ONLY U.S. FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND MINIMAL DOLLAR STIPEND SINCE ROMANIANS WILL PROVIDE FREE HOUSING AND 4500 LEI PER MONTH. FOR THIS PROGRAM WE SHOULD PLAN TO NOMINATE ONLY YOUNG, SINGLE CANDIDATES WITH M.A. DEGREE IN TOESL.

6. WE HAVE AGREED IN IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS (SEPTTEL) TO MONTHLY STIPEND OF DOLS 600 FOR ROMANIAN RESEARCH SCHOLARS AND LECTURERS IN U.S., FROM WHICH HOUSING WILL BE PAID, TO BRING THIS STIPEND MORE IN LINE WITH STIPEND PAID ROMANIAN RESEARCHERS BY OTHER USG AGENCIES. IN THIS CONNECTION WE ASSUME THAT DOLS 390 RATE SPECIFIED IN PARA 1 B OF STATE 6948 IS A TYPO AND SHOULD READ DOLS 690 SINCE THE CURRENT RATE IS DOLS 540. PLEASE CONFIRM BY IMMEDIATE.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR05691
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740359-0775
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741245/aaaabmbn.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 BUCHAREST 5684
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ROMANIAN PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES FOR 1975 AND 1976
TAGS: OEXC, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005